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regions the human harvest is bad; the survivor is followed by his kind, he determines the future; "those who fought the most survived the least"; forty per cent of the young men (eighteen to thirty-five years of age) of the South were lost; the southern white population lost ten per cent, the northern only two per cent; "the war wholly destroyed plantation life"; the war was followed by eugenic or racial decline because of the loss of the racially most valuable and the consequent reversal of selection.

I have outlined the principal statements of fact and opinion found in this work because they are for the most part rather generally accepted in the South; because they are evidently indorsed by the authors, and because they underlie nearly all the writing in the field of southern history, politics and society. Probably most of them can never be proved or disproved, but some are of such interest that endless speculation will continue. Before the historian can make much use of such studies the investigators must accumulate larger stores of undisputed facts and arrive at more definite conclusions. One will surely grant the great biological loss, which was rendered heavier by the politically repressive action of the Washington government. But quite a book might be written on the counterbalancing benefits of the civil war.

WALTER L. FLEMING

The Indian to-day. The past and future of the first American. By Charles A. Eastman (Ohiyesa). [The American books.] (Garden City, New York: Doubleday, Page and Company, 1915. 182 p. \$.60 net)

This little book of one hundred and eighty-five pages is exceedingly timely. In recent years the Indian has attracted much attention and we have had several volumes treating of his present and past condition—from Curtis' expensive artistic treatment in several magnificent volumes to Dixon's plea for a vanishing race. Eastman's early life was spent among Indians. He was born in a buffalo skin lodge near Redwood Falls, Minnesota, in the winter of 1858. His boyhood was spent with aborigines and away from white people. He was early sent to school and steadily progressed until he held degrees from both Dartmouth and Boston University.

Himself a near-full-blood Sioux, and long associated with educated and noneducated Indians, he writes authoritatively. Mr. Eastman is not a mere ethnologist seeking the derivation of obscure if not obsolete ceremonies, but a man of broad sympathies and keen insight. His recent work presents within convenient compass all that the public should know regarding our red brothers.

Naturally, he begins with the Indian "as he was," thus following the

treatment adopted by Mr. Leupp in his book, *The Indian and his problem*. Eastman paints the native American as he actually was, and not as we see him through the eyes of our frontiersmen and early colonists. Most of this class never understood the aborigines. Through contact with the lower class of whites swarming near Indian reservations, the Indian lost much and gained little. Eastman's statement, "his spiritual and moral loss was great," accurately describes the transition period.

In chapter ii he considers the Indian wars and their causes. In this section he briefly reviews the wars of two centuries, placing the blame upon the shoulders of the frontier element and our government. This chapter is followed by one detailing the evil effects of the agency system and citing how President Grant's successful plan of placing Indians under various religious denominations was brought to naught by the interference of politicians who desired agency positions as rewards to bestow upon political henchmen. Our author gives us a glimpse of the simple faith on the part of the Oneida and Stockbridge Indians in our promises. These had become Christians and exchanged their New York reservations for lands in Kansas. While the Menominee Indians were humanely entertaining these landless Indians, white settlers took possession of the Kansas tract. It was not until 1905 that our government paid a part of the value of the Kansas lands to these Indians.

Chapter v deals with the Indian in school. The showing is exceedingly creditable, as eighty-six per cent of educated Indians are reported as "doing well." The health problem, now very serious, citizenship, native arts and industries, Indians as professional workers, and the Indians' gifts to the nation, are topics which he considers at some length. One of the prominent members of the Society of American Indians, he very properly discusses what that organization attempts to do for the native American. Following the purpose of the organization to avoid friction with the interior department and to suffer somewhat rather than protest too violently, he is not very severe upon the grafters responsible for the Indians' present deplorable condition. That is, while eighty-six per cent of the educated natives are self-supporting, too many ignorant Indians have been swindled out of their lands and moneys. Concerning the Oklahoma and Minnesota scandals, and the poor inspection service of our interior department up to about the year 1910, he says: "Much of this graft might readily be stopped, and the ignorant Indian protected, were it not for the fact that the relationship between the shysters and certain officials is very much like that between the police of New York City and the keepers of illegal resorts. When complaint is made, big envelopes with 'U. S.' printed in the corners pass back and forth — and that is too often the end of it. The Sioux call the U. S. Indian inspec-

tors, who are supposed to discover and report abuses, 'Big Cats'; but an old chief once said to me: 'They ought rather to be called prairie owls, who are blind in the daytime and have rattlesnakes for their bedfellows.' "

Mr. Eastman indorses the national commission idea as a possible solution of the Indian problem, but thinks half the members should be men and women of Indian blood. His book is readable and an important contribution to our Indian literature particularly since it gives us the Indian point of view.

WARREN K. MOOREHEAD

Writings by John Quincy Adams. Edited by Worthington Chauncey Ford. Volume V (1814-1816). (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1915. 556 p. \$3.50)

The wealth of material to be found in each succeeding volume of the *Writings of John Quincy Adams* makes the task increasingly difficult of selecting that of primary importance. Special interest in volume v, including dispatches and letters between January 2, 1814, and March 31, 1816, attaches to the detailed accounts of the problems which faced the American commissioners at Ghent. One seems to get even a more intimate view of the embarrassing situations in which Adams and his associates were placed during these four months of drudgery than is to be acquired from reading the *Memoirs*. Master of an incisive style, his words seem fairly to leap forward in defense against the overbearing and insulting assumptions of the English representatives. Ten days before the final terms of the treaty were agreed upon, in a letter to his wife, he declared: "But it is the temper in the British notes and in the conferences on the part of two of the British plenipotentiaries which bring mine to the severest trials. You know all the good and all the evil of my disposition; but you cannot know the violence of the struggle to suppress emotions produced by the provocations of overbearing insolence and narrow understandings. They have, however, been suppressed. . . The British plenipotentiaries present to us articles sent to them ready drawn from England, and when we ask what they mean, what the object of them is, they answer they cannot tell; the article was sent them from England, we must construe it for ourselves. If we propose the alteration of a word, they must refer it to their government. If we ask for an explanation, they must refer it to their government. It is precisely the French caricature of Lord Malmesbury. 'My Lord, I hope your Lordship is well this morning'. . . 'Indeed, Sir, I do not know, but I will send a courier to my Court and inquire.' And thus all we have obtained from the two conferences of three hours each is, another courier to the Court to inquire" (p. 236).

Characterizations of his colleagues are much kindlier than are those